

Jan. 20 1925,  
Left Washington D.C. 9.35  
P.M. for Austin Tex, en route  
to City of Mexico.

Jan. 23. Austin, Tex.  
Arrived 6.40 A.M. in snow  
storm which I learned began  
about 5 A.M. Storm said to  
be wide spread, extending  
far to southward.

Jan. 24. Austin, Tex.  
Met Col. Turner E. Hobby and  
left in evening for Laredo.

Jan. 25. Laredo and  
en route to Mexico City. Crossed  
the border at 8.30. Train stopped  
on the bridge for removal of hand  
baggage. Mexican customs official  
came through and examining my  
baggage remarked "Que buenos zapatos lleva".



Jan 25 con.

Baggage unloaded at Nuevo Laredo where it was ~~hissently~~ examined at custom house and the train did not leave until 10.55. Customs official courteous and my baggage was sealed. Hand baggage had been sealed by paper sticker bearing the word "revisado". Rio Grande carried a moderate volume of water. Freeze night before had congealed water on slipping pavement and snow from recent storm still lay in patches. Mexicans sunning themselves against buildings as sun rose bright and sky clear. As train advanced into Mexico snow soon disappeared and the route was ~~open~~ <sup>level</sup> through the generally rolling plain, with <sup>barren</sup> mountains rising sharply in places only a few miles away. Plains fairly well overgrown with



Jan. 25 con.

small mesquites, huisaches, yuccas, low-growing cactuses and bouillba. These general conditions extending to Monterrey which was reached in the evening. This town is nearly incircled by rugged mountains, deeply scored by steep-sided canyons. Prominent from Monterrey is the mountain group known as Cerro de la Silla <sup>with</sup> which I had become familiar many years ago.

Jan. 26. En route to City of Mex.

Early in morning we were short distance south of San Luis Potosi and the aspect of the country had undergone a very marked change overnight. The dry, rolling plains bear a



Jan. 26 con.

remarkably heavy growth of vegetation in places. Large cactuses including the nopal de tuna are abundant and often tower over native houses, which may be picturesquely set in a cactus thicket with cactus plants growing close about the house. <sup>Agave</sup> Agaves also grow about the houses and in places form veritable forests along with yarabullos and ~~the~~ pepper trees "arbol del Peru" of the natives.

I felt exhilarated as I stepped from the train into the sunshine at San Miguel de Allende - a clear, dry <sup>warm</sup> friendly sunshine unknown in our country except at low elevations in the southwest



Jan. 26. con.

where it spreads north across the Mexican boundary. A many points along the way we were besieged by natives selling oranges, sweet limes, granaditas and many other edibles or inedibles and things too numerous to mention. Arrived City of Mexico 8 P.M.

Nearly gone ~~of~~ are the "coches" of former days. These are replaced by innumerable "camions" that compete seriously with street cars in carrying passengers and trucks used as taxis that carry passengers to points in the City for 1 peso, or more if it is obtainable from those haunts.



Jan 27 to Feb. 10, City  
of Mex. Many novel impressions  
of changes wrought by time.  
Calle 1<sup>a</sup> de San Francisco ~~was~~  
formerly cobble stone changed to  
well pave Calle de Francisco  
Madero.

Feb. 10 - 17 Remained in  
City of Mexico until latter  
date when I left with Valentin  
Santiago for Lerma at 3 PM  
arriving about 2 hours later.  
Lerma has become a place  
of less importance, now much  
over-shadowed by Toluca only  
about 15 minutes away by  
cannon. Many cannons run  
from City of Mexico to Toluca.  
Considerable difficulty in locating  
a place to sleep. Finally lodged  
in Mexican bed,



Feb. 17. Jirwa, Mex.

Spent day in tule marshes;  
now much choked by water  
hyacinths which make canoe  
navigation very difficult.

Feb. 18, Jirwa to Acambars.

Day very windy and cold.

Feb. 19 Acambars to

Palzcuaro, Ice on small pools  
of water along the way. At  
Palzcuaro found old Hotel Ibarra  
abandoned and a good new  
tourist hotel at station - Hotel  
"El Logo" it is called. <sup>Motor on</sup> <sup>Take in PM.</sup>

Feb. 20. ~~Spent day~~

~~Long~~ Palzcuaro to Puyano through  
beautiful country.

Feb. 21, Puyano to

La Barca, largely over nearly  
level valley floor.

Huts now used by men largely  
of good quality palm leaf, rems



Feb. 21 con.

very broad, but tops much lower than formerly giving them an odd appearance.

Feb. 22 - 25 - at Barva - and on latter date moved by motor boat to Acotlan. Bode goodbye to Sr. Manuel Muñoz the President Municipal who very kindly arranged trip by motor boat for us.

In late afternoon a trip was made to Jarway about 3 leagues from Acotlan along the shore of the lake. While at Jarway the sun set and the few light clouds gave sky and lake a remarkable series of coloring from rosy tints



Feb. 25 am,  
deepening gradually through  
various purple tints as  
the light faded, the hills  
bordering the lake also  
reflected in varying shades  
of purple, the reflections of hills  
differing from the reflections  
of sky as usual under such  
conditions. Return trip was  
very pleasant as the lake  
was restful and pleasing  
in the gathering shadows,  
with ~~the~~ <sup>several</sup> natural boats  
under sail off shore, and  
the temperature was mild  
and agreeable.

Zocalo or Plaza de la  
Constitution, In the City  
of Mexico has undergone a



great change, The beautiful  
trees of former years are now  
been cut I was told to  
permit those holding the  
National Palace to see better  
to shoot approaching revolutionists.  
The vegetation now is reduced  
to a few yuccas and small  
shrubs and frost-damaged banana  
plants, ~~that had started to~~  
~~flower~~ These do not produce  
fruit here and seemed to bow  
their heads in shame at  
their ~~to~~ sterility.

Acollan is a town of about  
13000 people. The proprietor of  
the hotel Flora described  
how about 2 years ago the  
place was besieged by the  
soldiers.



Feb. 25 con.

Mexican women, Those of the poor class still wear skirts of medium length as in the old days, and they move about without their rebozos. Both men and women still have the habit of covering the lower part of the face including the ~~mouth~~ mouth with rebozo or serape as the case may be. It is still the custom for men to wear guaraches while the <sup>women</sup> ~~men~~ go barefooted; and the men still have the ~~cut~~ cracks the hardened skin of the heels, and toes spread widely apart. In this region however a form of guarache is now used by some ~~with~~ which tends to hold the toes together.



Feb. 25 con.

Women - particularly younger women of the ~~better~~ <sup>higher</sup> within classes are many of them bobbed and horn-like locks are carried forward in front of the ears; and skirts are as short as those of their American sisters, but ~~for~~ the average Mexican woman is conservative and few of the poor class are shown except a few in the cities.

Feb. 26, Coctlan to Irapuato.

Have just been reading an editorial in El Universal protesting against the application of ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> Art. 130 of the ~~Constitution~~ <sup>Constitution</sup> which ~~suddenly~~ <sup>suddenly</sup> enforced ~~upon~~ <sup>upon</sup> the closing of parochial schools, nationalization



of churches, and the forcing of  
the exercise of the ministry by  
any except natural born Mexicans  
and under which some foreigners,  
especially Spaniards are being  
deported. It would be interesting  
to know just what impelled the  
Govt to take this step as the law  
seems not to have been enforced by  
such leaders as Venustiano Carranza,  
General Obregon, or Plutarco Elias  
Calleja up to the present time. A  
new president will be elected in  
1928 and this move would seem  
to measure the unpopularity of the  
present Govt.

In Acotlan a ragged man evidently  
a real labourer asked me for work,  
saying his wife was sick and his  
children without food and he had been  
unsuccessful for some time in finding



Feb. 26 am

a job. He did not ask for money but asked if I could employ him in any way. Is it any wonder such a man would join any revolution that promised relief for his immediate needs? And yet this man after a few days pay would quite likely soon begin to wish to avoid work as his immediate and simple needs were satisfied and or perhaps devote his surplus to drink. In the same town a rather bright appearing young fellow told me he had been in Calif. and Arizona, but did not like it as there was too much hard work, and he found he could get by more easily at home. Work has never become a habit with the average Mexican.



Feb. 27 con.

plain are in cultivation to  
such crops as wheat, <sup>and</sup> garbanos.  
In many fields a scattered growth  
of mesquite is left, although  
the land is cultivated up to  
close to them, giving <sup>landscape</sup> ~~such areas~~  
an orchard-like appearance.

People. Met a Mexican who  
has been employed by S.F. RR  
at Wichita, Kans. for ~~the~~ several  
years. He has run as a unit to  
his old home but is on his  
way back to Kansas where he  
says conditions are better.

Arrived S.L.P. 7.35 PM

Feb. 28 S.L.P. to Tampico.

Left S.L.P. 10<sup>10</sup> A.M. An interesting  
trip out to edge of plateau  
where first drop comes at



on the city of Mex. the sale of  
autos seems to be in the hands of  
Americans, sale of hardware in  
German hands, sale of clothing in  
French hands, sale of ~~clothing~~ groceries  
largely in Spanish hands, leaving  
to Mexicans only odds and ends.

Black-crowned night heron.  
Fifteen or twenty of these birds  
pass the day perched in the  
tall Eucalyptus trees in the  
Alameda in the city of Mexico,  
and just at dusk may be  
seen winging their way  
over the buildings toward  
their feeding grounds in  
the direction of Lake Texcoco.

~~For~~ Feb. 27. Drapwats to  
San Luis Potosi.

Left Mex. 7.05 a.m.

Near Drapwats parts of the ~~area~~



Mar. 1 - 3 con.

Edwin Falvey, and Harry W. Birdie, who is Sec. of the American Chamber of Commerce and seems anxious to be helpful.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> ~~went~~ <sup>started</sup>, out at 4:30 PM with Dr. Hudson & Falvey to hunt geese and got stuck in mud in thick before we got out of town. It had been raining hard the night before. By the time we got out of the mud it was so late we gave up try for the day.

On Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup> we were more successful in getting out, but although I saw some geese at short distances we were unable to kill any.



Rio Verde is situated, thus  
from Gardulas there is a  
rapid <sup>drop</sup> to Las Canoas near  
where the Tropical zone is  
entered, the country becoming  
obviously more humid in  
character as shown by the  
mainly mesquero vegetation,  
from Las Canoas the route  
is down the steep escarpment  
of the plateau along  
Pawasopo Canyon to Pawasopo  
plateau and from this  
point the descent is gradual  
over the rather broad  
coastal plain.

Mar. 1-3, Tampico, Tam.  
Have met a number of men in  
town among others Dr. Hodson,



Mar. 1 - 3 con.

Fuel & Petroleum Law

Newspapers continue discussion of the so-called "leyes de extranjeria y del petroleo," ~~which are~~ these laws said to be accordance with the constitution of Queretaro of 1917, recently by the Mexican Congress and promulgated by President Calles are regarded by many as retroactive and confiscatory in their effect. This is denied by Mexican authorities who say they do not confiscate property already acquired, but limit the acquisition <sup>must</sup> of ~~additional~~ property, and require foreigners to refer all disputes or claims to Mexican courts instead of invoking the intervention of their respective Govts.